

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A tibial implant apparatus, comprising:

a tibial plate having a superior surface and an inferior surface;

a base extending downwardly from the inferior surface of the tibial plate; and

an elongated member including a shaft having a superior end and an inferior end and a
radially projecting shoulder formed adjacent the superior end a first portion and a
second portion; wherein the tibial plate and the base defining define a through-
channel, the elongated member extending through the tibial plate and base superior-
distally, the shoulder of the elongated member seating first portion of the elongated-
member is retained in the through-channel, and the shaft second portion of the
elongated member extending inferiorly extends away from the base, the superior
end of the elongated member defining a superiorly facing, internally threaded,
socket;

a tibio-femoral insert removably engaged with the superior surface of the tibial plate; and

a screw extending through the tibio-femoral insert and threadably engaged with the

threaded socket of the elongated member to retain the tibio-femoral insert on the
tibial plate.
2. (canceled)
3. (original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the first portion of the elongated member is removably retained in the through-channel.

4. (canceled)
5. (original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the base includes a first generally keel-like portion.
6. (original) The apparatus of claim 5, wherein the first generally keel-like portion extends generally radially outwardly relative to the through-channel.
7. (original) The apparatus of claim 6, wherein the base includes a second generally keel-like portion extending generally radially outwardly relative to the through-channel at an angle of about 180 degrees from the radially outwardly extension of the first generally keel-like portion.
8. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein ~~the first portion of the elongated member is retained in the through-channel at least in part by at least one of screwing the first portion of the elongated member into the base and tapering the first portion of the elongated member into the base.~~
9. (canceled)
10. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the socket includes ~~at least one of a generally hexagonally-shaped portion and a generally torqx-shaped portion.~~
11. (canceled)
12. (original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the base includes a plurality of protuberances positioned generally radially outwardly away from the through-channel.
- 13.-21. (canceled)
22. (currently amended) A method for anchoring a ~~first member of a tibial implant to and a second member of a tibial implant in~~ a proximal tibia, the method comprising the steps of: seating a tibial plate on anchoring the first member in the proximal tibia;

extending an elongated member through the tibial plate and into the tibia anchoring the second member in the proximal tibia;
mounting a tibio-femoral insert to the tibial plate; and
inserting a screw through the tibio-femoral insert and into threaded engagement with a socket formed in the elongated member to retain the tibio-femoral insert on the tibial plate coupling the second member to the first member simultaneously with the step of anchoring the second member in the proximal tibia.

23. (currently amended) The method of claim 22, wherein extending an elongated member through the tibial plate includes threadably engaging the elongated member with the tibial plate ~~the coupling step includes extending the second member through the first member.~~